



January to March 2009

Alberta's International Merchandise Exports

January – March 2009

Highlights

Overview

In the first quarter of 2009, the value of Alberta's international goods exports fell by 30.3% from the same quarter last year, to \$17.8 billion. This decrease can be attributed to both lower prices (mostly of mining and energy commodities such as crude oil, propane, natural gas and sulphur), and lower volumes (mostly of energy products). Total export volumes fell by an estimated 6.6% as compared to the first quarter of 2008.

Major Commodities

In the first quarter of 2009, exports of crude oil, propane and natural gas fell by 42.4%, 35.4% and 29.5%, respectively, on lower volumes and prices. Barley exports fell by 44.6% due to lower export volumes while durum wheat and canola exports fell by 17.9% and 16.7% respectively due to lower prices and volumes. Wheat exports on the other hand rose by 6.6% as a result of higher export volumes. Lower export volumes caused an 81.2% fall in the value of sulphur exports. Lumber exports fell by 13.7% due to lower volumes. Exports of many manufactured commodities, such as ethylene glycol and nickel, fell sharply, but exports of pork, beef and oil and gas field machinery and equipment increased.

Exports by Industry

Mining and energy exports fell 36.9% in the first quarter of 2009, manufacturing exports decreased 14.1% and exports of primary agricultural commodities fell by 6.4% from the first quarter of 2008. Aside from a 58.4% increase in coal exports all other commodities in the mining and energy category decreased sharply. Primary agricultural exports fell as a result of an 8.7% fall in crop shipments (shipments of durum wheat, barley and canola were lower). The decrease in manufacturing exports was partly the result of declines of primary metal products (down 45.5%), plastic and rubber products (down 38.8%), furniture and related products (down 29.3%) and chemicals (down 26.3%). Other manufacturing sub-sectors such as paper products and wood pulp, food, feed and beverage, non-metallic mineral products, machinery, electrical equipment, and transportation equipment registered gains of between 2.8% and 17.5%.

Exports by Country

Exports to nine of Alberta's top 15 markets fell in the first quarter of 2009. For Alberta's top three markets (US, China and Japan) exports fell by 31.8%, 49.8% and 2.7% respectively. Exports to the U.S., Alberta's biggest export market, fell by 31.8% due to large declines in crude oil, natural gas, propane and styrene exports. Declines in ethylene glycol, nickel and sulphur exports caused exports to China to fall. Exports to Japan were driven down by declines for canola, cobalt and wheat. The fall in exports for the other six markets ranged from 1.0% for South Korea and Russia to 41.1% for Taiwan. Six of Alberta's top 15 markets registered increases in export values. Of these six markets, exports to Oman and Iraq increased more than five-fold their values over the same period last year. Exports to Bangladesh, Mexico and Saudi Arabia increased by 127.1%, 30.8% and 24.0%, respectively.

ALBERTA'S INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE EXPORTS TO TOP 50 COUNTRIES/MARKETS

Countries/Markets	January to December			First Quarter		
	2007 (\$ '000)	2008 (\$ '000)	% Change	2008 (\$ '000)	2009 (\$ '000)	% Change
United States	70,879,444	96,590,014	36.3%	22,315,020	15,229,392	-31.8%
China	2,810,375	3,094,826	10.1%	947,199	475,051	-49.8%
Japan	1,458,966	2,034,302	39.4%	445,604	433,442	-2.7%
Mexico	720,023	1,088,766	51.2%	188,969	247,122	30.8%
Korea, South	463,249	514,270	11.0%	117,744	116,601	-1.0%
Netherlands	565,599	341,910	-39.5%	77,439	77,938	0.6%
Australia	209,393	413,840	97.6%	78,673	64,178	-18.4%
United Arab Emirates	150,833	230,856	53.1%	61,737	59,059	-4.3%
Saudi Arabia	90,918	146,654	61.3%	46,367	57,476	24.0%
Bangladesh	90,683	65,811	-27.4%	25,075	56,937	127.1%
Russia	210,995	213,849	1.4%	56,014	55,450	-1.0%
Iraq	85,579	53,162	-37.9%	8,028	47,245	488.5%
United Kingdom	248,204	211,071	-15.0%	49,802	45,148	-9.3%
Taiwan	250,187	231,645	-7.4%	69,683	41,017	-41.1%
Oman	22,613	66,654	194.8%	5,184	37,278	619.1%
Indonesia	217,531	302,002	38.8%	73,472	36,302	-50.6%
Venezuela	102,888	141,720	37.7%	21,466	35,292	64.4%
Italy	201,689	151,764	-24.8%	40,830	34,266	-16.1%
Singapore	247,104	190,305	-23.0%	68,473	33,973	-50.4%
Pakistan	102,218	157,453	54.0%	79,401	33,779	-57.5%
Germany	125,618	82,037	-34.7%	20,190	29,796	47.6%
Colombia	77,971	93,395	19.8%	19,657	28,674	45.9%
France	80,366	93,894	16.8%	23,782	26,629	12.0%
Peru	42,212	58,240	38.0%	17,825	26,239	47.2%
Chile	74,333	131,664	77.1%	12,689	23,789	87.5%
Sri Lanka	73,328	114,033	55.5%	33,913	22,756	-32.9%
Belgium	234,285	172,594	-26.3%	59,981	20,581	-65.7%
Ecuador	46,997	40,230	-14.4%	19,686	20,036	1.8%
Brazil	143,121	464,799	224.8%	39,612	19,995	-49.5%
Iran	16,424	174,075	959.9%	800	19,751	n/a
India	109,256	85,449	-21.8%	19,061	19,424	1.9%
Hong Kong	132,804	106,976	-19.4%	26,715	18,960	-29.0%
Libya	18,367	38,594	110.1%	12,881	18,677	45.0%
Malaysia	85,893	114,110	32.9%	53,184	14,533	-72.7%
New Zealand	60,384	80,531	33.4%	17,274	13,876	-19.7%
Algeria	65,668	113,473	72.8%	35,033	13,470	-61.6%
Philippines	66,743	69,809	4.6%	20,483	13,229	-35.4%
Thailand	77,181	92,493	19.8%	22,941	13,101	-42.9%
Guatemala	7,641	11,175	46.3%	145	12,867	n/a
Switzerland	31,142	41,852	34.4%	10,148	12,165	19.9%
Kazakhstan	40,730	96,675	137.4%	50,631	12,123	-76.1%
Afghanistan	682	729	6.9%	145	12,122	n/a
Egypt	43,346	80,768	86.3%	14,745	10,551	-28.4%
Gabon	9,816	17,282	76.1%	8,891	9,362	5.3%
Norway	36,990	38,182	3.2%	8,223	9,200	11.9%
Vietnam	64,983	55,776	-14.2%	14,036	8,524	-39.3%
Ghana	17,576	31,045	76.6%	6,988	8,423	20.5%
Sudan	75,849	74,910	-1.2%	15,720	8,051	-48.8%
South Africa	105,826	226,976	114.5%	33,943	7,745	-77.2%
Turkey	22,624	35,095	55.1%	12,945	7,656	-40.9%
All Other Countries	756,353	812,638	7.4%	146,393	106,902	-27.0%
Total Exports	81,872,999	109,890,373	34.2%	25,554,839	17,806,151	-30.3%

ALBERTA EXPORTS TO ALL MARKETS BY INDUSTRY

EXPORTS BY INDUSTRY	January to December			First Quarter		
	2007 (\$ '000)	2008 (\$ '000)	% Change	2008 (\$ '000)	2009 (\$ '000)	% Change
Primary Agriculture	3,695,953	4,913,320	32.9%	1,242,708	1,163,526	-6.4%
Crops	2,858,233	4,239,937	48.3%	1,036,052	945,760	-8.7%
Livestock	837,720	673,383	-19.6%	206,655	217,766	5.4%
Primary Forestry, Fishing & Trapping	3,691	4,304	16.6%	939	1,102	17.3%
Mining & Energy	55,444,472	80,614,306	45.4%	18,668,554	11,780,785	-36.9%
Crude Oil	28,210,889	47,763,547	69.3%	9,838,158	5,665,434	-42.4%
Natural Gas & Natural Gas Liquids	26,283,236	30,168,031	14.8%	8,359,482	5,848,429	-30.0%
Coal	404,255	660,210	63.3%	117,061	185,431	58.4%
Sulphur	466,764	1,896,601	306.3%	330,079	62,075	-81.2%
Other Mining & Energy	79,327	125,918	58.7%	23,774	19,415	-18.3%
Manufacturing	21,850,725	23,424,769	7.2%	5,440,619	4,673,402	-14.1%
Chemicals	7,177,919	8,003,722	11.5%	1,937,388	1,427,381	-26.3%
Machinery	2,698,245	3,507,958	30.0%	717,027	841,548	17.4%
Food, Feed & Beverage	2,719,622	3,155,399	16.0%	712,118	737,218	3.5%
Paper Products & Wood Pulp	1,351,466	1,580,199	16.9%	403,216	414,356	2.8%
Primary Metal Products	2,332,730	1,851,302	-20.6%	477,290	260,124	-45.5%
Petroleum & Coal Products	1,308,808	1,426,666	9.0%	304,896	238,373	-21.8%
Computer & Electronic Products	1,080,123	907,054	-16.0%	259,906	199,907	-23.1%
Fabricated Metal Products	794,592	791,820	-0.3%	175,560	175,501	0.0%
Transportation Equipment	507,166	536,294	5.7%	121,818	143,102	17.5%
Wood Products	886,311	614,970	-30.6%	124,309	123,530	-0.6%
Electrical Equipment, App. & Comp.	270,777	274,481	1.4%	52,597	57,499	9.3%
Plastics & Rubber Products	234,530	273,822	16.8%	67,433	41,257	-38.8%
Furniture & Related Products	200,607	185,126	-7.7%	46,897	33,163	-29.3%
Non-Metallic Mineral Products	101,832	103,129	1.3%	24,431	26,702	9.3%
Other Manufacturing	185,999	212,828	14.4%	45,415	43,194	-4.9%
Other Exports	878,157	933,674	6.3%	202,019	187,336	-7.3%
TOTAL	81,872,999	109,890,373	34.2%	25,554,839	17,806,151	-30.3%

ALBERTA'S TOP 50 COMMODITY EXPORTS TO THE WORLD

Commodities	January to December			First Quarter		
	2007 (\$ '000)	2008 (\$ '000)	% Change	2008 (\$ '000)	2009 (\$ '000)	% Change
Crude oil	28,208,083	47,763,455	69.3%	9,838,158	5,665,335	-42.4%
Natural gas	24,708,910	28,147,859	13.9%	7,637,769	5,381,710	-29.5%
Propane, liquefied	1,409,635	1,804,396	28.0%	666,180	430,247	-35.4%
Polymers of ethylene nes, in primary forms	1,747,243	2,040,756	16.8%	468,246	429,940	-8.2%
Wheat (other than durum wheat)	1,261,447	1,839,696	45.8%	393,915	420,080	6.6%
Canola	869,092	1,602,058	84.3%	411,174	342,710	-16.7%
Meat of bovine animals, boneless, fresh or chilled	704,261	805,075	14.3%	167,296	219,371	31.1%
Polyethylene having a spec gravity of ≥ 0.94	1,031,780	990,272	-4.0%	253,733	217,625	-14.2%
Parts for boring or sinking machinery, nes	498,437	835,043	67.5%	123,168	190,062	54.3%
Bovine animals, live, nes	711,578	557,978	-21.6%	174,490	185,911	6.5%
Bituminous coal, not agglomerated	397,207	646,050	62.6%	112,475	154,599	37.5%
Ethylene glycol	1,272,661	1,237,149	-2.8%	408,436	147,004	-64.0%
Chemical woodpulp, coniferous	587,002	655,322	11.6%	157,713	144,700	-8.3%
Urea	395,522	628,797	59.0%	117,841	135,551	15.0%
Heavy oils (not crude), e.g. diesel	602,613	631,489	4.8%	120,613	121,958	1.1%
Low value and confidential commodities	586,225	625,702	6.7%	135,970	111,749	-17.8%
Chemical woodpulp, non-coniferous	408,559	546,892	33.9%	128,081	105,245	-17.8%
Nickel, unwrought	1,172,273	679,725	-42.0%	207,292	102,111	-50.7%
Turbopropellers, not exceeding 1,100 Kw	186,185	253,339	36.1%	48,987	90,362	84.5%
Anhydrous ammonia	338,947	662,696	95.5%	93,944	89,155	-5.1%
Air/gas pumps, compressors and fans, nes	230,269	287,757	25.0%	69,359	83,170	19.9%
Potatoes, prepared, frozen	221,124	218,063	-1.4%	50,060	70,603	41.0%
Acyclic hydrocarbons, unsaturated nes	319,415	319,170	-0.1%	98,699	66,262	-32.9%
Machines/mechanical appliances w. individual function	151,324	230,365	52.2%	45,763	66,159	44.6%
Sulphur	466,764	1,896,601	306.3%	330,079	62,075	-81.2%
Malt	136,709	243,969	78.5%	54,858	59,648	8.7%
Coniferous wood sawn > 6mm thick	430,333	344,342	-20.0%	68,662	59,287	-13.7%
Boring or sinking machinery, not self-propelled	279,105	333,521	19.5%	82,757	56,118	-32.2%
Durum wheat	160,252	264,157	64.8%	65,282	53,564	-17.9%
Barley	157,187	237,303	51.0%	91,298	50,574	-44.6%
Engine and motor parts, nes	135,100	176,816	30.9%	34,948	49,374	41.3%
Pork, fresh or chilled	163,703	157,090	-4.0%	35,599	46,825	31.5%
Taps, cocks for pipes, vats incl. thermo control	192,354	180,900	-6.0%	45,342	45,971	1.4%
Styrene	561,812	530,303	-5.6%	120,925	45,955	-62.0%
Parts of pumps for liquids	135,231	136,001	0.6%	23,833	44,517	86.8%
Polyethylene having a specific gravity of < 0.94	243,627	259,142	6.4%	74,140	44,442	-40.1%
Ethylene, polyene, butylene and butadiene, liquified	287,461	381,859	32.8%	84,148	44,238	-47.4%
Semichemical woodpulp	193,669	203,833	5.2%	50,852	41,945	-17.5%
Pork, frozen, nes	107,325	120,976	12.7%	29,188	41,513	42.2%
Petroleum bitumen	63,682	132,278	107.7%	26,001	40,160	54.5%
Canola oil and fractions, low erucic acid, crude	115,144	220,815	91.8%	36,335	38,702	6.5%
Canola oilcake & low erucic acid, nes	95,751	145,132	51.6%	35,460	38,313	8.0%
Cobalt, unwrought	270,690	315,480	16.5%	83,894	38,076	-54.6%
Butanes, Liquefied	130,173	214,799	65.0%	55,497	36,411	-34.4%
Pipe/oil line, >16", iron/steel, long sub arc weld	414,366	245,998	-40.6%	91,929	35,765	-61.1%
Surveying instruments and appliances, nes	198,542	130,742	-34.1%	62,106	33,776	-45.6%
Articles of iron or steel, nes	107,795	120,794	12.1%	26,816	29,125	8.6%
Ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymers, primary forms	111,623	156,317	40.0%	31,247	28,436	-9.0%
Coal, not agglomerated, nes	4,186	1,362	-67.5%	211	26,560	n/a
Winches and capstans powered by electric motor	16,880	61,105	262.0%	2,342	26,486	n/a
TOTAL ABOVE	73,199,254	101,220,740	38.3%	23,573,107	16,089,474	-31.7%
TOTAL	81,872,999	109,890,373	34.2%	25,554,839	17,806,151	-30.3%

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